THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) A delegation of the Association of Electronics Industry of Israel visited India recently. Members of the delegation had discussions with Indian Industrialists regarding possible joint-venture. But no joint venture has yet been finalised.

(c) No agreement was signed by the Government in this regard.

ILLEGAL HIVING OFF OF STONES SHINGLES AND SAND FROM THE MAGHALAYAN BORDER BY BANGLADESH

2343. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after Bangladesh undertook large and wide road construction, huge quantities of stonse, shingles and sand are being illegally hived off from the Meghalayan border;

(b) whether an assessment of the national wealth thus lost has been made; and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to control and legalise the outflow ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No such incidents of illegal hiving off of stones, shingles, and sand by Bangladesh on Meghalaya Border have been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Field formations remain vigilant against smuggling, including illegal export of stones, shingles and sand. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling.

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF BASAMATI RICE

2344. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of Basmati rice that is produced in India per year;

(b) what percent of total production is exported; and

(c) what is the country's share in this commodity in World Trade and what is the export price per quintal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Under the present forecasting system, the production of rice is not calculated separately for different varieties. However, it is tentatively estimated that basmati production is around 6 to 7 lakh MTs, and less then 50 per cent of this is exported.

(c) During 1991-92, India's share in world exports of basmati rice and unit value realisation was 32.32 per cent and US $ 759.77 per MT respectively.

EXPORT PROMOTION INDUSTRIAL PARKS

2345. SHRI B. K. HARI PRASAD : Will the Minster of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently announced a scheme for setting up Export Promotion Industrial Parks (EPIP) in all the States ;

(b) whether Government have received any such proposals from the State Government of Karnataka ;

(c) whether Government are aware that fully developed infrastructural facilities